

# The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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## WET CANTEENS.

We have always realised that "a thing is never settled till it's settled right." Lately we have had to admit that even after that right settlement is made, there are folk who will attempt to get it upset. When the Defence Act became law and abolished the wet canteen, all right-thinking people thought the matter was settled finally and rightly. Temptation was to be banished from the camps where our young men were to have their homes for a week or two each year. But times have changed; the grim reality of war is upon us, and the occasional camp of the Territorial has been overshadowed by the great permanent training camps like Trentham and Rangitoto. Once again the section of the community who value the vested interests of the brewer more than the physical well-being of our boys, are agitating for the wet canteen in the camps.

We are told that the wet canteen exists in the British camps. But there is one fact we should never overlook when comparing England with our own fair land, and that is, that in England the mothers have no vote. Men study large vested interests and hesitate to oppose them, but mothers say no vested interest is worth considering if it debases and degrades our sons. Had English mothers had the vote for 22 years, we feel sure there would be no wet canteens in British camps.

When a W.C.T.U. deputation waited on the Defence Minister at Christchurch, he told them that personally he was not in favour of the wet can-

teen, but that he was only one member of the Cabinet. Yesterday, in replying to a deputation representing the Methodist Conference, the Premier said there need be no words on the subject of the wet canteen. He had been collecting evidence on the subject, and the bulk of the opinions are decidedly against the wet canteens being established. He had even gone so far as to ask the military people if they would prefer a wet canteen to an alteration in the hours, and they had replied that they would not have a wet canteen under any conditions whatever.

This is in accordance with the highest military authority everywhere. Lord Roberts spoke in favour of dry canteens. He also said: "Give me a teetotal army, and I will lead it anywhere."

In Canada wet canteens were abolished, yet when the Canadians reached England a wet canteen was placed in their camp. So indignant were the Canadian mothers that in the short space of three weeks, in the very depth of a Canadian winter, they secured over 62 thousand signatures of mothers to a petition asking for the abolition of these wet canteens. The petition was forwarded to England by the Premier, who strongly supported it. In Australia the Federal Government has decided that the dry canteen be continued. When the agitation was on in Victoria to secure wet canteens in camps, the newspapers gave much space to the controversy, and we quote a paragraph from the "Melbourne Age" on the subject:

"Amongst the many arguments urged in favour of the wet canteen,

only one deserves the least consideration. It is that the consumption of alcohol in camp can be controlled, and that if men are supplied with liquor in moderation in camp they will not indulge in excess elsewhere. Now, it is a fact that the consumption of alcohol in camp can always be regulated; if the camp is well managed; but the corollary deduced from this fact is quite untenable, and it has been falsified almost everywhere by experience. Experience shows that the drinking minority of soldiers customarily initiates a holiday, where the wet canteen is in vogue, by visiting the canteen before leaving the camp. The consequence is, these men, to use a military expression, reach the place where their leave is to be spent "half-cocked," and ripe for mischief. Under the dry canteen system they perforce reach town perfectly sober, and there is at least a chance of their resisting temptation. But in a half-cocked condition they have no chance at all. They forthwith proceed to become "full-cocked," and trouble follows. Since the inauguration of the dry canteen in Victoria—all our most experienced soldiers recommended its enforcement—there has been little cause to complain of the conduct of our soldiers. Many serious scandals have occurred of late in New South Wales, but the dry canteen is responsible for none of them, and it is very probable that they would have been more numerous and serious under any other system.

"The War Committee, however, should not be content merely to discountenance the misguided agitation for a wet canteen. The time has

surely come for it, both in the interest of the soldiers and of the general industrial community, to formulate drastic measures for dealing with the drink evil. Why should Australia continue to be the one country in the civilised world where soldiers and civilians are freely encouraged to drink at all hours of the day and far into the night? Alcohol does no good to anybody. It is neither a food nor an innocent or helpful stimulant. To most men it is a rank poison, and it is directly responsible for every military disorder that has scandalised us since the war began, and for half the social maladies that ravage the body politic. Russia, France, and Italy prepared for their life and death struggle against the Central Powers by crushing the liquor traffic out of existence, and thereby they strengthened their belligerent capacity to an incalculable degree. Britain was slow to follow suit, having to combat a multitude of special vested interests; but she has never ceased fighting the plague, and it appears now that she has it by the throat. Through Greater London and the neighbouring districts at this moment, and also in all the other great centres of population, public-houses are not allowed to remain open for more than 5½ hours per day, and the custom of 'shouting' has been constituted a penal offence. Is it beyond our common sense to effect a similar installment of reform throughout the Commonwealth? Does any man suppose that it is less essential for Australians to be preserved from temptations to intemperance than Englishmen, Frenchmen or Russians? Are we less interested in doing all that is necessary to conquer the enemies of civilisation than our Allies?"

Dr Mary Booth, of Sydney, in the course of a statement, which was made at a meeting of the Women's National Movement for stopping the sale of intoxicants at 6 p.m., said that 1500 men had failed to take their places in the firing line at Gallipoli, and had been forced to stay in Egypt, mainly through inefficiency caused by drink and between 300 and 600 soldiers had deserted from troopships in Melbourne.

### ALCOHOLIC DEGENERACY.

One of our greatest scientists has said:—"A great wave of degeneracy is sweeping the land—a degeneracy so appalling in magnitude that it staggers the mind. What is the cause of this degeneracy? A hundred different intermediate agencies may contribute to the undoing of the race, but back of them all stands alcohol as the chief degenerative factor, numbering more victims than have been slain in all the wars and in all the epidemics of acute disease that have swept the country within two hundred years. The application of modern scientific methods has reduced the mortality from acute diseases, such as typhoid, yellow fever, and the plague. The sources and the carriers of these infections have been discovered. By abolishing the sources and exterminating the fly, the mosquito, and the rat, the average length of life has been increased. With what marked contrast do we deal with alcohol, that most potent source and carrier of chronic disease. Boards of Health, armed with the police power of the State, eradicate the carriers of typhoid and quarantine the victims, but alcohol—a thousand times more destructive to public health than typhoid fever—continues to destroy. Alcoholic degeneracy is the most important sanitary question before the country, and yet the health authorities do not take action, as alcohol is entrenched in politics. We are face to face with the greatest crisis in our country's history. The alcohol question must be settled within the next ten years, or some more virile race will write the epitaph of this country."

### ORGANISING FUND.

The following amounts have been received for the Organising Fund during the month of February, 1916: 1st, Bluff Union, 10s; 1st, Auckland Union, £2; 2nd, Invercargill Union, £4 10s; 2nd, Christchurch Union, £5; 3rd, New Plymouth Union, £2; 3rd, Otago (Southland) Union, £1 10s; 3rd, Dunedin Union, £6; 4th, Matakana Union, 10s; 5th, South Invercargill Union (per Miss Henderson), £1 11s; 7th, Hastings Union, £1; 9th, Lyttelton Union, 10s.

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### ENGLAND'S BOOZE BILL AGAIN.

London, October 9.—A great number of English financiers are deeply concerned over the enormous loans that their country has negotiated and those that are likely to follow if the war continues.

These same high brows are surrounded by a condition which makes the much talked of war loans dwindle considerable by comparison.

The recent loan of one hundred million pounds is a mighty big sum of money. It represents the sacrifice that England is willing to make to preserve to posterity its rightful heritage.

This sum, which startled the whole Western Hemisphere, is forced somewhat into the back-ground by statistics which tell us that the same England spends **every year** one hundred and sixty million pounds for drink.

**And this represents the sacrifice that England's posterity is making to insure to the present brewery barons their blood money.**

In the current number of the "Edinburgh Review," its editor estimates that by the time the war ends the increase of England's national debt will not be less than two billion pounds. This will mean an annual charge, for interest and sinking fund, of one hundred and ten million pounds. Harold Cox adds to this another twenty million pounds for pensions to disabled soldiers and to widows and dependents of the fallen, making a total of one hundred and thirty million pounds.

It is a monstrous big sum to find every year, but it is thirty million pounds less than the amount that she spends in a year on various forms of alcoholic swill.

If the same English experts will come to life and abolish the traffic in alcoholic poisons as did Russia by proclamation, she could pay off her national debt without becoming one whit poorer.

Indeed, if the optimistic reports are to be believed, she would be all the richer for it.

England's booze bill makes England's war bill blush for shame.—"New Republic."

Difficulties are just things to overcome after all.—Lieutenant Shackleton.

## OUR RELATIONSHIPS, HUMAN AND DIVINE.

There is infinite variety of human type, but we have a common origin. "God created man in His own image." In his famous speech to the Athenians, the Apostle Paul reminded his cultured Greek audience of their common origin with the barbarian, an idea they scouted, believing themselves, as they did, a privileged class. "He made of one blood all the nations of mankind, to dwell upon the face of the whole earth." What follows is very significant: "and (He) ordained to each the appointed seasons of their existence, and the bounds of their habitation." Divorce this statement from the former, and we shall regard less privileged and highly organised races, nations, communities, individuals, as fair prey, to be exploited for our benefit. It is the recognition of the two-fold statement that has induced a human interest in human kind, and given rise to Mass Movements, International Societies, Brotherhoods, Peace Conferences, Federation, in place of purely local, isolated government. But in a deeper sense than is implied in all this there is a shouldering of the responsibility that belongs to privilege. Hence the missionary cut off from fellowship with his kind, from what he once regarded as the necessities of life; the worker in the slums; the man or woman who toils and suffers on behalf of others. And the compulsion of such is not legal. "The love of Christ constraineth us. . . . And that He died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto Him which died for them and rose again" (2 Cor. 5:14, 15). "Oh, to grace so great a debtor." We say out of a full heart, with the Apostle, "I am debtor." Was this some part of the Apostles' discharge of their liabilities? If so, might it not flood some life with light, joy, peace, if found in the succession? Listen: "We are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men," "as it were appointed to death." We prove that we are in the apostolic succession if, in our fiery ordeals, the world, angels, men, see only in us faithful soldiers of the Lord Jesus Christ, true to the colours, ready for sacrifice as for service, for loss as for gain. "Are ye able," He asks, "to drink of the

cup; be baptised with the baptism"—Mine? As a mother gazed upon the mangled form of her beautiful child, with none other to take her place, and she a widow, one comment only escaped her lips: "God can make no mistakes." Not so heavily fell the blow upon that other mother. With her it was one, not ~~the~~ chair vacant; she not a widow, yet through long years has she borne a grudge against Him Who took her darling, and in bitterness of soul has nursed her grief. But there is a look in the eye of the one, a tone in the voice, that help others in their distress, and bid them seek her source of comfort. "Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort, Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God" (2 Cor. 1:3, 4). Are you and I, reader, willing and capable of such ministry, if so appointed? And the other poor mother? Certainly there is nothing in the hard eye, metallic voice, stern manner, to invite the broken-hearted to sob out their anguish on her breast. Is ministry such as the former worth the cost? We are not asked. Our surrender to God, our outward ministry, may involve no such cost, but should it, let us not falter, but let others learn through us what we have learnt in sorrow. "I know not what awaits me; God kindly veils mine eyes." And the unveiling is done by Him, "Our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble." We stand not alone in presence of our dead; our wreckage of hope and fortune. And let us remember that "He that suffers most, hath most to give." Yea, too, most to gain, even though for the time being all seems loss, and life a drawn-out pain, a sob. "Only one little life to lose." Shall we withhold that life from Him, by Whom it was redeemed; be unwilling, when required, to lay it down for the brethren? The wherefore of our sacrifice is surely more than answered in the statement, "Because He laid down His life for us" (1 John 3:16). We started with the consideration of our relations with the human race to which we are allied, and our consequent obligations thereto, involving more or less of sacrifice and suffering. "Bound up together

in the bundle of life," our obligations extend to the whole race of mankind. Hence our duty to "Do good to all men," and to this the Apostle adds the tender personal touch, "Especially to those that are of the household of faith."

"Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love:  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above.  
We share our mutual woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear;  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathising tear."

But while we belong to the human race as a whole, we belong to some one country in particular, some district, some church, some family, in which is involved at once our privilege and responsibility. The body is one organic whole, but it is made up of many parts. Its well-being, and the well-being of its fellow-members, depends upon the well-being of the individual member. Such are the sympathetic relations of the members one with the other, that the suffering or rejoicing of the one is the suffering or rejoicing of the whole. We are then to the body to which we are attached either a source of strength and help or of hindrance and weakness. No man either liveth or dieth to himself. Abnormal activity or sluggishness on the part of any organ may lead to functional disorder that affects the body as a whole. How important that the unit should be healthy, since there is so much at stake. And now for the present to confine our outlook. We have touched upon those larger, catholic interests that reach out to the remotest peoples of the earth. We will now consider those that belong peculiarly to us as our sphere of action, in which our lot is cast. We each of us have some niche to occupy in family, school, business, or church life, upon which our action or inaction involves the weal or woe of others. And foremost among these is our church life, by which is implied our relation to Christ as His, redeemed by His precious blood; hence members of His Body, and fellow-members of those who are His members. Oh, how sacred our trust as members of that Body. How significant the language of the Apostle in relation to that Body. He has been speaking of

Christians in their corporate capacity as attaining unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, of how this is accomplished, by Divinely appointed instruments, bringing us into the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, of our growing up into Him in all things, which is the Head, even Christ, and then of the part of the individual. "From Whom (Christ) the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which **every** joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of **every** part, maketh increase of the Body unto the edifying of itself in love" (Eph. 4:11-16). "Who is sufficient for these things?" "From Me is thy fruit found." "Abide in Me, and I in you. . . . He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without Me ye can do nothing."

GERTRUDE COCKERELL.

### TEN DON'TS FOR WOMEN.

1. Don't belittle yourself, your belongings, surroundings, attainments, nor anything that is yours.
2. Don't talk too much, nor unnecessarily of your affairs, interests, doings, opinions. Even your thoughts may not be interesting to all.
3. Don't go on working when brain and body are tired. The tongue frequently wags from sheer mental and physical inability to keep it still. Forcing ourselves to go through with the self-imposed, imaginary "duty," we grow garrulous, and make ourselves ridiculous.
4. Don't—DON'T be mean about anything; it isn't worth while. Say No! decidedly and kindly if you don't wish to spend, and can't give, but don't do things meanly; it hurts others besides yourself.
5. Don't vacillate.
6. Don't wobble.
7. Don't agonise about doing or not doing this or that. Find out as quickly as possible if a thing is wrong for you, and then,—
8. DON'T do it.
9. Don't gossip.
10. Don't grow bitter.

### LESS VODKA, LESS CRIME.

"Law-breaking has decreased everywhere." This statement gives the note of a report, which has been prepared in Russia with regard to the effect of vodka prohibition upon the peasant population, and is dealt with at length by Professor J. T. Simpson in the "Contemporary Review."

This report is the result of the answers given by 600 correspondents in different districts of the Government to questions put to them officially. "The part devoted to the effects of vodka prohibition," says the professor, "opens with the statement that this measure was really the last link in a chain of measures, Government and other, that had been instituted in connection with the struggle with drink. The results of drinking were so bad that it had come to be generally realised that sooner or later the whole question must be faced. The war simply fixed the time. Society and Government alike saw that when the war called for sacrifices on the part of the people, they must be helped in every way to regain their power and energy, and that the Government also must fall into line in surrendering its drink profits."

In most cases it was reported that the peasants were working better and more intensively, that the efficiency of labour was higher, and that pay was higher because of temperance."

"Before Prohibition," a Judge reported, "there were 30 to 50 cases every month in the District Court; now there are none. The whole report, in fact, shows that the absence of drinking facilities has had remarkably beneficial effects upon the life of the peasant community."

### NO SUCH THING AS A "MEDICINAL" WHISKY.

Alcohol puts to sleep the sentinels that guard your body from disease. Policy-holders are warned against advertisements extolling the virtue of whisky in disease. The callous cruelty of such advertisements lies in the fact that they appeal to the very people who are most injured by the use of alcohol—sufferers from rheumatism, chronic kidney disease, nervous subjects, etc. There is no such thing as a "medicinal" whisky.—From Bulletin No. 5, issued by the Postal Life Insurance Co., New York.

### THE PRIMATE OF AUSTRALIA MAKES A PLEA.

In his Presidential address at the opening of the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney, Archbishop Wright said: "We are now awake to the grim truth that, no matter how sacred is the crusade which we wage for all that is most spiritual in humanity, we shall yet be worsted unless we fling aside everything that is usual and concentrate our entire Empire, money, men, machines, thought, fiscal, scientific, intellectual, and spiritual resources alike to the supreme end of crushing the foe who threatens to extinguish all the holiest aspirations of mankind. The Church has done more than plead. She has made good her plea by giving of her best. Thousands of her most vigorous sons are in the fighting line. She has done her part in ministering to the temporal and spiritual welfare of the soldiers."

Archbishop Wright asked his hearers to ask for shortened hours for liquor trading, and said:—"The present attitude of the Government looks like unworthy subservience to unpatriotic selfishness. What have we done to help to break the shackles of the drinking habit by which our very national existence has been threatened in the war, and which is still counted as an asset by our enemies? What have we done to help a Government, apparently opportunist, in this matter to resist the selfish remonstrance of the organised vested interests of the drink trade? I believe that if we are time-serving or apathetic on this matter, we shall one day be convicted of having been found wanting by our nation in her need. The Government of New South Wales stands by inert with folded hands, and makes no suggestion. It apparently is content with things as they are though the curse of these long hours to our fighting strength is denounced by impartial authorities."

### THE IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT AND THE LIQUOR PROBLEM.

With the "Toronto News" we are all in accord in saying, as it does in the closing words to the article on Temperance Laws: "Nothing that has happened in Great Britain since the war began has made such an unfavourable impression in the Dominion as the apparent vacillation of the Imperial Parliament in dealing with the liquor problem."

# MRS NORTON'S MEDICINE BOTTLE.

(Loretta Hanford, Chicago, Ill.)

There had been a slow convalescence after Mrs Norton's latest nerve collapse. Her strength and interest in life had come back reluctantly; but one bright Sabbath morning she had awakened to gaze critically about her.

Instinctively she missed the old-time atmosphere of orderly sweetness. Somehow her room appeared strangely different. The pretty vase that was wont to hold her favourite flowers was absent from the dresser, and in its place stood a flat quart-bottle.

"Yes, of course," she murmured; "the doctor ordered it."

For weeks she had lain in her darkened, nurse-guarded chamber. Only rare tip-toed visits had been allowed to her husband and her nearest friends. No one but her child Alice—her "bit of sunshine"—had stolen in and out at will.

Suddenly, as the woman's gaze again wandered to the dismantled dresser, memory roused her with the force of a blow. Her heart recoiled with dread at the thought that she must ere long again take up the burden whose weight had made her so weary of life.

"Oh, God," she pleaded, as she turned her pale, drawn face to the shadowed wall, "help me—oh, help me to save him!"

"Only two days more!" sang Alice as she tripped home from Sunday School, "then mother will come downstairs, and it will seem like living again!"

But disappointment clouded the child's face as her eyes sought the upper window, only to find it vacant. Mother had always watched for her of late.

"Yu—hu, mother! Where are you, mother?" she called, as she ran swiftly up the stairs.

A faint, "Here, daughter," came from the inner room.

"Why, mother, dear, you have been crying—you are crying now!" exclaimed the distressed child as she gave her affectionate greeting.

"No, n-o, dear. Mother is quite strong to-day," declared Mrs Norton, making a heroic effort at control. "I have been thinking—just thinking some foolish thoughts—that is all." But even as she spoke, sudden tears came. It was useless to try to con-

ceal the truth that a serious trouble was preying upon her mind.

"Was it father's fault?" the child asked hesitatingly. "Was he—sick again last night? He did act so queer at the dinner table, and he was so very cross! Is that why you were crying, mother?"

There was no answer.

"Is that the reason? Tell me truly. I am not a baby any longer. Tell me, mother," Alice persisted. Her soft arms were around her mother's neck, and the blue child-eyes were looking pleadingly into the grave, unhappy ones. Still there was no answer.

"Mother dear, I ought to know what is troubling you." Now the girlish voice was the one that trembled, and the blue eyes were misty.

"Alice, my child, why should your young heart be burdened with the lessons and the discipline that belong to mature life? They are not for you now, dear. They will come to you soon enough, God knows. Just be my own light-hearted little girl, as you always have been. That is the only thing that will make me happy."

"No, mother. That kind of talk may sound very wise, but you are not to put me off in this way. You must answer my question: Was it father's fault? Yes, or no?"

"Well, then—yes, if you must know. But let us talk about something more interesting. How many were in your class to-day, and did they like their new teacher? You must ask her to come to dinner some day. I always like to know your teachers."

The words had a far-away sound, and were uttered mechanically, as if thought were busy elsewhere. The sensitive heart of the child felt their effort.

"Really, you must not treat me this way, mother. You must tell me all about the thing we were talking of," Alice said with a hurt in her voice. "I am father's child as well as yours. What he does and what you do concerns me just as much as it concerns you two. We are all one family."

Mrs Norton never had thought of the relationship in precisely the way that Alice put it. Perhaps she was right in her view of it. A sudden impulse came to take the child into full confidence. Alice might even prove a help. At least, the burden, shared by one who was so nearly con-

cerned, would be less heavy for her own heart, now weighed down to its greatest endurance.

"Well, child," Mrs Norton said, after a few moments of silence—"you did guess the truth. It was on account of your father that I was crying. I am going to tell you the whole story. But let us go into the front room. It is brighter there."

As Mrs Norton leaned back in the easy-chair, Alice settled herself among the pretty pillows in the window-seat beside her.

"Your father was a strong character when I married him," the mother began. "He could not tolerate in others the least yielding of principle. He would condemn without a hearing those who fell through weakness, especially through drink."

Alice gave a start. Were the words premonitory? Was that the trouble with father? An undefined fear thrilled her.

"Judge not," I more than once quoted to him when he would launch into one of his tirades against some person who, in a moment of temptation, would fall. "There is no excuse for drunkenness if a man has brain. Leave that sort of thing to imbeciles and degenerates!" he would say. But the time came—oh, how can I tell you, dear?—the time came when he himself needed the same mantle of charity that I had so often thrown over others."

"You don't mean that father drinks" burst from Alice's shocked lips.

"Until of late, I never would admit it even to myself," was the quiet reply. "I used to call the habit by other names. It seemed so vulgar, so coarse, so horrible to use that word in connection with my husband."

"But, mother, how did he ever get to—to that pass? How did he begin? What made him change into the very thing he had so hated?" asked the young girl all in a breath. She sat up, tense, alert, eagerly awaiting the answer.

"You asked me how it began," the mother answered in a strangely constrained voice. "I think I shall never forget how it began. It was one bitter night in winter when your father came home benumbed with the cold, and completely worn out with his long, hard day's work. 'Take some of my brandy,' I said to him. 'It will warm you up, and rest you, too.

I don't know what I ever should do when my weak spells come on if I did not have that remedy near," I added, as I saw a look of hesitation on your father's face. "Take it, of course. It's only medicine. It can't hurt you," I urged."

"Did he take it, mother?" asked Alice breathlessly.

"Yes, he drank what I poured out for him, and in a few moments he declared that he was warm and comfortable. But, Oh, my child, if I ever regretted anything in the world, I regretted that act of mine! Every once in a while, after that, I would find your father standing before the medicine cabinet with my brandy bottle in his hand, and when I would remonstrate with him he would say that it was only a tonic, and that he really needed it to rest his tired nerves.

"Many hot words on account of this passed between us as time went on, and finally he angrily declared that he would never touch my medicine again—and he never did."

"Oh, I am so glad!" exclaimed Alice, with a sigh of relief.

"No, he never did," the mother continued, "but the trouble was not ended; it was only begun, for after that he used to take his brandy away from home. He naturally drifted to the very companionship that he formerly had loathed and despised. Things have rapidly gone from bad to worse, until now——"

"Don't mother—Oh, don't. You shan't cry again. It will be all right somehow; it must be. Father used to be a good man. He will be good again; it is in him. We will help him. We will save him."

"That is easy enough for your young lips to say. How many times I have made vows like that! It seems to me I have tried everything, but everything has failed."

"There are two things you have not tried, mother."

Mrs Norton looked up into the eager face, now strangely illumined. "What are they, dear child?"

"You have not tried God's power to save father. Our temperance lesson in Sunday School to-day was about that very thing. I can see, from what you have said, that you have been trying to save him all by yourself."

"Dear, I believe there you are half-way right," replied the mother in

tones of conviction. "But tell me the other thing I have not tried."

"The other thing, mother dear"—the next words came slowly, with pauses between—"you haven't thrown away your 'medicine bottle.'"

There was a crash of breaking glass in the next room, followed by a hissing sound in the grate.

"Your father!" Mrs Norton sprang up in terror. "Oh, I can't bear any more!" She covered her face with her hands as if to shut out some dreaded sight.

"Yes, it is 'your father,' Alice," came a steady, deep voice from the doorway—"your father, but clothed and in his right mind at last."

There was nothing to fear from the clear-eyed, erect man standing there. "You see I have tried one remedy suggested—he held out the broken bottle—"and now we all will try the other, so help us God!"

From the glad, quivering lips of mother and daughter, very reverently, very joyfully, came the word "Amen!"

### BREAD OR BEER.

Mr Alfred Booth, Chairman of the Cunard Steamship Company, lately made a speech at Liverpool, in which he said:—"The most glaring example of a form of consumption which we could perfectly well dispense with is the drink traffic. I am not thinking now of the temperance side of the question. Important though that is, we have got far beyond that now. I am thinking of the demand which the trade makes upon the services of our ships, our railways, and carts, and of our labour. Thirty thousand tons a week of barley and other produce are brought into this country for the brewing and distilling trades! Think of the demand which this means on the depleted resources of our mercantile marine. Then all this stuff, together with the larger quantity which is grown at home, has to be carted and hauled by rail to the brewery or distillery. Then it has to be brought back again and distributed to the consumer. In addition to this, six thousand miners are kept permanently employed getting coal, and thirty-six thousand tons of coal have to be sent every week to these breweries and distilleries. Taken in the aggregate, the services absorbed by this trade are

on a gigantic scale, and the net result of it all is a decrease in national efficiency. I say in all seriousness that, if we are to maintain our armies in the field, we shall before long have to choose between bread and beer.

### WOMEN'S TEMPERANCE SONG.

God bless our Temp'rance band  
Throughout our native land,  
And give us grace  
Our forces to unite  
For God, and truth, and right,  
And wage a winning fight  
To save our race.

May women everywhere  
For Temperance declare,  
And join the fight;  
May we with hearts aflame  
Uphold our country's fame,  
And save from guilt and shame  
Our honour bright.

Where souls in bondage lie,  
May we, in love, draw nigh,  
Their chains to break;  
May we their way prepare,  
Uphold with faith and prayer,  
And shame and sorrow share,  
For Jesu's sake.

Where mothers weep for boys,  
Long loved and cherished joys,  
Now gone astray:  
May we their dwellings seek,  
A word of hope to speak,  
And for the wanderer weak,  
In meekness pray.

Where children cry for bread,  
On hard, untended bed,  
Thy mercy show;  
Help us to do our share  
Their future to prepare,  
And keep them from the snare  
That worketh woe.

The Temp'rance women's band  
Extend in every land  
Where people dwell,  
Till all the race shall be  
From drink and crime set free,  
And in glad songs to Thee  
Their praises tell.

—Thomas Tiplady (Rev.)

On May 1st, 100 saloons went out of business in Chicago because their patronage was so poor they did not pay.

**AUSTRALIA'S WOMAN INVENTOR****MRS MYRA JULIET TAYLOR.**

That trite phrase, "A prophet hath no glory in his own land" was never so strikingly illustrated as in the case of Mrs Myra Juliet Taylor. This remarkable little lady might justly claim to be the most versatile woman in the Commonwealth of Australia, yet she dwells in our midst unknown, almost in obscurity. This, in a measure, is owing to the lady's shrinking from publicity, and reluctance to speak of herself and her doings, and her present small venture into the limelight is due to her strong patriotic sentiments. Mrs Taylor is a practical inventress; her registered patents are the source of her income. She is a widow with a young family to support. There are 24 inventions to her credit, but her latest achievement takes pride of place, a "defence fence," which is said to be invulnerable. It is some two months since this invention was perfected and patented, and it is now under the consideration of the Defence Department, which authority, after much investigation, admits it is all Mrs Taylor claims for it—rifle, shell, and machine-gun proof.

**Simplified Garments.**

Another most remarkable invention is her "stitchless button." It is recognised that this will prove a universal boon when placed upon the market. No longer need the harassed housekeeper worry about the buttonless garments returned from the laundry. The "stitchless button" dispenses with the attentions of needle and thread, nor does it require the faking of a button-hole. In this department might also be mentioned two other labour-savers to the seamstress—the "stitchless press stud" and the "stitchless hook and eye." The military authorities have also the "stitchless button" under consideration for adoption on the soldiers' uniforms. Yet another appliance to appeal to the needlewoman is a "mechanical skirt and pattern-marker," which will mark and measure any pattern or size skirt from any fashion plate, and when the skirt is cut out will mark the required length, width of hem, and mark off for trimming in a few seconds. The appliance will adjust itself to any mode and any size.

Something that makes a direct appeal to the feminine world is the "camisole stayette," or boneless corset, a garment which is so constructed as to perfect a good figure and improve a bad one, and ensure ease, whilst conforming to every rule of hygiene. The "camisole stayette" is now being manufactured in England, and will shortly be upon the Australian market.

Closely associated with this is the medical and surgical belt, for use after operations, which has the written approval of ten leading doctors.

**Devices in the Home.**

Then there is her linoleum clip for putting down the floor covering without tacking. A wheat sampler and weigher, a fruit picker and packer, which was tested upon the most difficult of all fruit to handle—mulberries, and effects its work perfectly. The fruit is unbruised and hands need not touch it. An automatic window, which opens and closes by pressure upon a button; a collapsible rigid and folding hood, which can be made to fit any vehicle. Its ingenious utility is admirably illustrated on a baby's perambulator. It affords perfect protection from any kind of weather, and allows of free ventilation—an automatic air purifier and cooler, which can be adjusted to any requirements. Its principle is a form of condensation. The Patent Attorney pronounces this a master invention, and states that hitherto there has been no record of any invention to make water run up a flat surface. Yet the contrivance appears simple, and is unobtrusive. It creates no wet or damp, nor any such discomfort. Its adoption will dispense with the use of punkahs and electric fans, etc. Dwellers in tropical lands will hail it as a heaven-sent blessing. Another master conception is her advertising apparatus, which automatically throws illuminated words into space. It will be just as effective as the present disappearing electric signs, and do away with all the permanent structure required for their maintenance.

An attachable sole, which will fit any boot or shoe, and requires no tacking on, is another of her inventions, as is also a restful railway carriage seat, which will permit of every traveler being assured of comfort during his journey. Mrs Taylor is taking this device to America in a few months,

for, as she rather pathetically complains, it is so difficult to get anything done in Australia, and we are so slow and cautious about assimilating new ideas.

Mrs Taylor has just cause for complaint, since it took three years' hard work for her to get her first patent made—the skirt and pattern-marker. She also says that it is even difficult to get the Patent Attorney to listen to some of her new ideas. One would expect to find the person responsible for all this ingenious work to be rather difficult, but Mrs Taylor is quite the reverse when one succeeds in making her talk of herself and her doings. Her manner is simple, kindly, and affable. In appearance, she is essentially feminine, very fair, and plump, with appealing blue eyes and brilliant colouring, which comes and goes as she warms to her subject, and a soft, slow voice.

**Started Inventing at Five.**

Her inventive genius does not interfere with domestic duties. She is a devoted mother, and her two bonny children are her first care and consideration. The elder child, a daughter of seven, has inherited her mother's gift. At the age of five, to ensure more comfort for her dollies, she effected a contrivance which a Patent Attorney pronounced "an ingenious invention worthy a mature brain."

Mrs Taylor is the daughter of a clergyman, of a very old family, whose Celtic crest dates back over 900 years. She is much travelled, knows Ireland and England, and has been in most parts of all the Australian States.

The remarkable little lady has been inventing since she was a tiny child. She says she always felt as long as she can remember that she could see and do things which other people could not. Her first invention happened at the age of ten, when she made a self-fastening safety-pin, and announced to her mystified mother, "I can do something that you can't."

Neither Mrs Taylor nor her people understood her marvellous gift, and it lay dormant for years. Practically six years of her short married life were spent in constantly nursing an invalid husband.

**Things Dreams are Made of.**

No less astounding than her achievements is Mrs Taylor's method of working. An idea comes to her from observation, or hint from a

second person. She keeps thinking of it incessantly, and one night the solution comes to her in her sleep. Still sleeping, she gets up and works it out on anything handy, oftentimes the wall. The workings are all backwards, but perfectly intelligible to the inventress.

Mrs Taylor makes her own models, and perfects her drawings before submitting them to the Patent Attorney.

At present the little lady has only one ambition in life—the adoption of her defence fence. She has absolute faith in its efficacy. A glance at her small model—made entirely by herself, and a most formidable-looking piece of work for one frail woman to accomplish—justifies that faith. Her anxiety is not born of any thought of the monetary reward—her thoughts are only of all the brave, precious lives she may be the means of preserving. Shields of a kind are now being used by both the English and the German armies, as seen in recent "Illustrated War News." They are crude and primitive alongside this woman's achievement, and can only claim resemblance inasmuch as both are visible.—"The Evening News," August 14, 1915.

### A MORNING PRAYER FOR WHITE RIBBONERS.

Oh! Lord, Thou knowest every word of mine.

Help me to bear each cross and not repine,

Grant me fresh courage every day,  
Help me to do my work alway **without complaint.**

Oh! Lord, Thou knowest well how dark the way:

Guide Thou my footsteps, lest they stray,

Give me fresh faith for every hour,  
Lest I should doubt Thy power, and **make complaint.**

Give me a heart, Oh! Lord, strong to endure,

Help me to keep it simply pure,  
Make me unselfish, helpful, true,  
In every act, whate'er I do, and **keep content.**

Help me to do my woman's share,  
Make me courageous, strong to bear  
Sunshine or shadow in my life,  
Sustain me in the daily strife to **keep content.**

### IN THE FIELD.

Although I arrived in Pahiatua on February 5th, it was a fortnight later before a start could be made with the work, owing to indisposition. Mrs Neal and Mrs Eager had kindly provided hospitality, and would have looked after me, but as special treatment was required, I thought it better to go into the public hospital. As much visiting, chiefly from house to house, as the extreme heat permitted, was done before I ran down to Greytown for a week-end, and interviewed President and Secretary, finding the Band of Hope postponed until April, the heat of the weather rendering it impossible to do anything just now.

On March 2nd a social gathering took place in the Presbyterian School-room in celebration of Willard Day. The attendance was good; the collection for World's Missionary Fund excellent. Two new members were initiated, two others who had signed being prevented from attending.

Feilding is to be the next location.

M. S. POWELL,

Dominion Organiser.

Miss Powell's address: Care Mrs Up-ton, The Avenue, Wanganui.

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Mr Scrimp: "Well, you just take this scuttle and sail downstairs and pirate some coals."

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**Christian Temperance Union**  
**Of New Zealand.**

Organised 1885.

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**The White Ribbon.**

For God and Home and Humanity.

WELLINGTON, MARCH 18, 1916.

**BRITISH DOMINIONS WOMAN  
 SUFFRAGE UNION.**

At a meeting of the Advisory Committee of the B.D.W.S.U., held in London on December 13th, Miss Sheepshanks (Editor of "Jus Suffragii") in the chair, Mrs Fawcett (President of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies) proposed, and Mrs Pethick Lawrence (President of the United Suffragists) seconded, the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:—

"That the attention of the women of Australia and New Zealand should be urgently drawn to the fact that as enfranchised women they have the duty of leading the movement for Women Suffrage for the Empire. They alone of British women will be directly represented at the Imperial Conference which will be held immediately the war is over, and indirectly at the Con-

gress of the Powers which will follow that Conference. They must therefore instruct their representatives, the Premiers of the Commonwealth and the Dominion, to press for the granting of the Franchise to women as essential to a true democracy, and to the highest interests of the Empire. Further, the Premiers must endeavour to secure that the question of Woman Suffrage be included in the programme of the Congress of the Powers."

We hope Convention will consider the above resolution. Surely we who enjoy all the benefits of the vote should do all in our power to assist our sisters in other parts of the Empire to gain this boon. Women have shown during this war that they are worthy of the vote, and we must do our best to see that they get it. As one result of this dreadful war, we hope to see equal suffrage throughout the British Empire.

**AS A BREWERY AGENT SAW IT.**

At one of the meetings on the way to the Seattle Convention, Mrs Deborah K. Livingston caught the attention of the audience by the somewhat startling announcement that the National Women's Christian Temperance Union and the American Brewers' Association are agreed on one point, and that is that the liquor traffic is doomed by the success of woman suffrage! She related a conversation she had not long ago on a railroad train, with an agent of a large Cincinnati brewery, in which she asked him what he considered the greatest factor in the country for the extermination of the liquor traffic, and after he had freely admitted that by 1920 or 1925, at the latest, the doom of the liquor traffic would come—that it was making its last stand—his reply was: "Frankly, I think there are two things that are hurrying National Prohibition: the great new efficiency basis in the industrial world—men of capital and men of the labouring class have come to see that John Barleycorn does not pay in dollars and cents; and secondly, the enfranchisement of the women of the United States. If the big corporations do not put us out of business before long, the woman's ballot will dead sure."

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE ELEC-  
 TIONS.**

The time for the election of School Committees is once more at hand, and all who are interested in the representation of women on public bodies should prepare to take what steps they can to secure the placing of women representatives on the Committees, by the nomination of suitable women as candidates, and the arousing of interest in all who have the privilege of voting on the occasion. This is the more necessary because it is only by means of a larger representation on School Committees that women can hope to gain representation on Education Boards, the members of which are elected by the Committees. The elections will take place, as usual, towards the end of April (probably the last Monday), and in the usual way at householders' meetings in the various districts, except in any district that was placed last year under the new regulations. By the new Act, the election of School Committees will take place at the same time and in the same manner as those for Mayor, Councillors, Hospital Boards, etc., once in two years, the vote being extended to all whose names are on the Municipal Roll. This applies only to school districts having a population of over 8000; in all small districts the annual election at householders' meetings will still continue. So far as my information goes, Nelson City was the only one able last year to take advantage of the new regulation, but the Unions in large districts will do well to make quite sure upon the matter. The elections this year will therefore be practically the same as before throughout the Dominion, the new method not being introduced till 1917. When it becomes general, it should give a much better chance in the larger districts of securing the return of women candidates, the voting power being so much extended; and it would be well during the present year if all Unions able to do so would begin in good time the work of seeing that the names of all women who are eligible are placed upon the Municipal Roll.

MARION JUDSON,

N.Z. Supt. Good Citizenship Dept.

## Correspondence.

(The Editor is not responsible for opinions expressed by correspondents.)

Dear White Ribbon Sisters,—

I feel impelled to write a letter to you to-day for various reasons. One of them is the fact that I am in Invercargill enjoying a holiday, and another motive power is that I had such a peep into an ideal home last night, as can only be obtained by a limited number of our New Zealand sisterhood, and I want to tell you all about it. Of course, Invercargill is specially interesting to the W.C.T.U. members, being one of our object-lessons in favour of the "narrow views forced upon the people by faddists, cranks, etc.," i.e., Prohibitionists. By the way, I never noticed before what a number of eyes Prohibitionists have. Well, I am using my four eyes to some purpose, and I will tell you some of the things I see in Invercargill. I walk from end to end of the broad, clean streets, and see well-dressed men and women on every hand; large, prosperous places of business; little children warmly clad. I drink in deep draughts of pure fresh air. No tap-room belching forth its sickening odours to the passer-by; and I say, "Well done, Prohibition; industry induced by you increases income!"

Leaving the town, I come to a river called the Waihopai, and here I find the prohibited area ends. Fitting safeguard for teetotallers, is it not? A rolling river of nature's own provision for thirsty mortals divides "Dry" from "Wet." Just across the shining river we find breweries engaged in polluting the water. We see lying on the side of the streets several very fine specimens of stone jars encased in wicker-ware. And our inquiries are answered by the words, "keg party," and then my eyes see visions of fathers, husbands, sons, out on carousal; mothers, wives, and little ones bereft of joy and happiness, and natural protectors, and I say, "Work harder, women; prohibition cannot prohibit until the curse is removed. Inebriety invariably induces imbecility."

Leaving for a time the subject of prohibition, we turn, as an honoured guest, to an ideal home. Knocking at the door of Amethyst Hall, a young girl of 14 summers opens to us, and the lady of the house, in loving fashion, bids us welcome. It is the afternoon for a weekly Empire prayer meeting. Our hostess gives out the hymn, "Peace, Perfect Peace." Then the 91st Psalm is read in unison, and we are each allotted our subject for prayer. One prays for a mother who has lost one son in the war and has another wounded; then our enemies are remembered, and so on till we feel, as four o'clock—the hour to close—arrives, we have been to the

very gates of heaven. A walk through the house and grounds is full of interest. In a fine hall at one end we see a band of little girls, led by an earnest Methodist lady, working for a Bazaar in connection with one of the churches. In the courtyard a little fellow of eight summers runs up, calling, "Auntie, we are having a lovely game"—bushrangers or something equally exciting. I heard that he is a little adopted boy. He is evidently getting a big percentage of the love that he has missed hitherto. In the kitchen the fourteen-year-old girlie is introduced, and we hear later that she too has been placed by God in the mother arms of our hostess. A little Maori girl is also encircled by the same loving-hearted mother. At tea time our hostess, in homely fashion, enters the dining room, having been engaged helping to prepare the meal. The various little members of that happy household each do their part towards setting the table, etc. After tea and interesting chat on Leper Missions, Indian Missions, and every other mission, in which host and hostess give the guests a good lead, some lovely Indian lace and crochet is exhibited and sold on behalf of the Indian mission, the lady of Amethyst Hall having made herself responsible for the sale of £100 worth. The children grouped round the fire, with father on one side, and mother on the other, made such a picture as set my pulses throbbing and moistened my eyes. When the hands of the clock reached seven, without intrusion or obtrusion, the mother and children sat on the sofa and read a little story about John the Baptist. Then kneeling at mother's knee, Gentle Jesus and the Lord's Prayer close the day for the children. Before leaving, I had the privilege of seeing the "tired headies cuddled down, fast asleep. In my heart I said, "God bless all in this ideal home."

As I write this it is Mrs Lee-Cowie's birthday, and a party of all the members and tenants of Amethyst Hall is in full swing. On behalf of the women of New Zealand, I wish her God's choicest blessing on her and on her loved ones. May He prosper her efforts for the uplifting of His children, and put it into the hearts of others to go and do likewise.

"Tis but a Rest-house by the way;  
I do not call it 'Home.' Oh, No!  
But just a Guest-house, night and day,  
For Pilgrims, where they come and go."

"It is Thine own, it is not mine;  
Then help me do the best with Thine,  
To make it pure and bright and sweet,  
A resting place for weary feet;  
To speed them on their way in love  
Up to the Father's Home above."

(Joshua 24:15; Hebrews 13:2.)

Yours in White Ribbon bonds,  
ELIZABETH PINFOLD.

## WHY DO NATIONS FALL?

(To the Editor.)

Madam,—There are, doubtless, many in the Dominion who believe, with Admiral Beatty, that until the Empire is stirred out of her stupor of self-satisfaction and complacency and a religious revival occurs, just so long will the war continue, and that when she looks to the future with prayer on her lips, we can begin to count the days towards the end.

The Bishop of Wellington, Dr. Sprott, has pointed out that the most generally accepted theory of the fall of nations is that they fall as the just judgment of a living God on national sin, and, in consequence, that a nation is master of its own fate, and holds its destiny in its own hands.

The Bishop has also stated that it seems to be God's rule that, while He vouchsafes a direct answer to the request of an individual when the matter of the prayer concerns only an individual, where the matter of prayer concerns great masses of men and whole nations, God only moves when approached in all earnestness and unity of purpose by a great army of devoted servants of His.

Feeling that the position of the Empire is one of the utmost gravity, and that, if we are to come safely out of this, the greatest crisis in her history, we must organise our spiritual forces, an endeavour is being made to band together Christian people of all churches throughout New Zealand to pray daily, first, that a wave of national repentance may sweep through the land; and, second, that God will bring us safely through our time of trial and testing. A representative committee has been formed to further this movement, which has the approval, among others, of the Primate, Bishop Nevill, Commissioner Hodder (Salvation Army), and Mr C. Cathie (Chairman of the Baptist Union). It would help considerably if all those who would undertake to pray daily for these objects would communicate with Mr D. O. McClay, 13, Gordon Place, Wellington, or the undersigned, for union is strength in spiritual warfare as well as in earthly.

It is hoped that a week day at an early date may be set apart by authority to be observed by all religious bodies throughout the Dominion as a day of humiliation before Almighty God for national sin and of intercession for the Empire. Many believe, with Admiral Beatty, that the sure road to victory lies through the way of national penitence.—I am, etc.,

H. HAROLD ROBJOHNS.  
13, Patanga Crescent, Wellington.

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### THE TWO BALLOTS.

Along in November, when chill was  
the weather,  
Two ballots were cast in a box to-  
gether;  
They nestled up close like brother to  
brother,  
You couldn't tell one of the votes  
from the other.

#### Refrain.

Both of them were rum votes,  
They indorsed the license plan;  
One was cast by a brewer,  
And one by a Sunday School  
man.

The Sunday School man, no man  
could be truer,  
Kept busy all summer denouncing the  
brewer;  
But the fever cooled off with the  
change of the weather,  
And late in the autumn they voted  
together.

The Sunday School man had always  
been noted  
For fighting saloons, except when he  
voted;  
He piled up his prayers with holy  
perfection,  
Then kicked them all down on the  
day of election.

The foxy old brewer was cheerful and  
mellow;  
Says he, "I admire that Sunday  
School fellow;  
He's true to his church—to his party  
he's truer;  
He talks for the Lord, but he votes  
for the brewer."

### WOMEN POLICE AND PATROLS.

The Hull Watch Committee has ap-  
pointed three women as members of  
its police force—a superintendent and  
two constables. In Southampton one  
policewoman has been appointed by  
the Watch Committee. It is under-  
stood that these officers will have the  
same powers as ordinary constables,  
though they are naturally being em-  
ployed on special work. In each case  
the women selected have been trained  
by Miss Damer Dawson, of the  
"Women's Police Service."

On June 10th a crowded meeting  
was held at the Mansion House to de-  
scribe the work of women patrols.  
The chair was occupied by Mrs  
Creighton, who was supported by the  
Lady Mayoress. The speakers in-  
cluded the Bishop of London, Coun-  
tess Ferrers, and Sir Edward Henry  
(chief of the Metropolitan Police  
Force). All spoke in high praise of  
the work done by the 2000 women all  
over the country who are serving as  
patrols. They give from two to six  
hours per week to the work, and are  
unpaid. It is not easy to tabulate re-  
sults, but there can be no doubt that  
their mere presence in the streets  
serves as a "walking conscience,"  
while they themselves are learning  
much about the street life of our  
cities and villages. The collection  
amounted to £150. The Central  
Patrol Committee is in need of funds  
to pay its travelling organisers, who  
are a necessary part of the scheme.—  
"The Shield," July, 1915.

A Scotsman tells this story of a  
beadle who was afflicted with a severe  
thirst, and was warned that he was  
killing himself. "You really have not  
the sense of the lower animals, Wil-  
liam," the doctor said. "Look at a  
horse when he is taken down to the  
river to slake his thirst; when he has  
had enough he stops." "Aye," re-  
torted William, "but gin there was a  
horse at the ither side o' the water  
saying, 'Here's tae ye,' he wad gang  
on."

### THE PRODIGAL.

We all have a heart for the prodigal  
boy,  
That was caught in sin's mad whirl,  
And we welcome him back with songs  
of joy.  
We all have a heart for the prodigal  
boy;  
For the boy there was ever an open  
door,  
And a father's bounteous fare,  
And though he was wretched, sick  
and poor,  
He is sure of a welcome there.  
But what of the girl who has gone  
astray,  
Who lost in the battle with sin?

Say, do we forgive in the same sweet  
way  
We've always forgiven him?  
Does the door stand ajar as if to say,  
Come, enter, you need not fear?  
It's been open thus since you went  
away,  
Now on to the second year.  
Or with a hand of cruel pride,  
Do we close and bolt the door,  
And swear while heaven and earth  
abide,  
She shall enter here no more?

O Christ, it seems we have never  
learned  
The lesson writ in the sand,  
For ever yet the woman is spurned,  
And stoned in a Christian land.  
Down into the slough we hurl her  
back,  
Then turn around with a smile,  
And welcome the boy from the sinful  
track,  
Though his was the life most vile.

Rear-Admiral Tudor says that dur-  
ing the first week of March, 135 men  
employed in submarine engine work  
did the equivalent of a full week's  
work of only 28 men. Admiral Tudor  
declares this small output of work is  
due to the effects of excessive drink.

The Controller of the Russian  
Treasury, speaking before the Budget  
Committee of the Russian Parlia-  
ment, uttered this weighty sentence:  
"With the war and without vodka,  
Russia is more prosperous than with  
vodka and without the war."

## News of the Unions.

(The Editor cannot promise to insert anything in the next issue that does not reach her by the 8th of the month. Correspondents are requested to write their Reports as concisely as possible, on one side of the paper only. Newspaper cuttings are unsuitable.)

### NELSON.

Monthly meeting February 8th. A good attendance of members, Miss Atkinson presiding. A letter was read from Misses Anna Gordon and Agnes Slack (in the "White Ribbon") with regard to the postponement of the Triennial World Convention. The appeal for increased support of the "White Ribbon" in the January number was also read, and it was resolved to order four dozen copies of the Convention number. Mrs W. Hockey was appointed Superintendent of the Cradle Roll, and a vote of thanks passed to Mrs Day, who has been doing the work of the department since the death of the last Superintendent. Mesdames Watson and Field were appointed delegates to the coming Convention, and Mrs Scanlon's motion and the election of N.Z. Officers voted upon. A resolution of sympathy was passed with Mrs Watson who had lost one of her sons at the Front. Greetings to the Union were received from Mrs Crump, late President.

A meeting was held at Richmond on the following day, February 9th; there were nine present, Miss Weymouth presiding. A resolution of deep sympathy with Mrs Watson in the loss of her son was passed by the members present. On the suggestion of Miss Weymouth, it was resolved that the Richmond members as a Union should take up Band of Hope work, the question to be considered at the next meeting. One new member joined. The monthly Intercessory Service has been continued through the holidays, though the attendance has been small.

### PETONE.

February 1. Meeting held. A fair number present, Miss Kirk presiding. A vote of sympathy was passed to the family of the late Mrs Kirk who was a very ardent worker for the Society in past years. Mrs Burd was appointed delegate for the forthcoming Convention to be held at Wanganui in March.

February 16. A very pleasant At Home was held at the residence of Mrs Hope; Mrs Rouse, President, was in the chair. There were twenty present, including Mrs Peryman (Editor of the "White Ribbon"). Mrs Peryman and Mrs Battersby gave very interesting speeches. Recitations were given by Mrs Cole and Master D. Hope, which were very well received. There were also gramophone

selections, after which afternoon tea was handed round. A vote of thanks was accorded the hostesses (Mesdames Hope and Cole) for the pleasant afternoon provided.

### GREYTOWN.

Feb. 23. The President (Mrs Whincop) in the chair, 8 members and 1 visitor being present. The "W.R." Agent received orders for one dozen extra Convention numbers. The following resolution sent to Hon. James Allen and local paper:—"In view of the fact that the physical and moral fitness of the soldiers are seriously impaired by the use of alcohol, the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Greytown urges the Minister of Defence to take steps to restrict the opportunities afforded to soldiers of obtaining intoxicating liquor, and in this connection it earnestly begs the Minister to prohibit the practice of 'Treating.'"

### PONSONBY.

Union reassembled February 10th; a good attendance. With very great pleasure we welcomed our President, Dr. Florence Keller, who has just returned from a visit to America, where she has been very busy gaining information re children's hospitals. Her home-coming is very sad, Dr. P. M. Keller, her husband, having developed pneumonia on the homeward route. We sincerely hope he may soon be restored to health. Miss Henderson's circular received and adopted. The Hon. Minister of Defence, in reply to a previous resolution on the subject of "shouting," hoped the Union would use their personal influence to urge the men to abstain from the use of intoxicants. (While our Government license the sale thereof, strange anomaly!) The present N.Z. officers were nominated for another year. Postponed election of Union's officers then took place: Pres., Mrs J. H. Fountain; Sec., Mrs Geo. Plummer; Treas., Mrs M. A. Bailey.

### TOKOMARU BAY.

Meeting took place on Tuesday, 15th February. For the greater convenience of members, it was arranged to meet the second Friday of each month. Resolved to send a telegram, in accordance with the New Zealand Secretary's suggestion, heartily endorsing proposed measures with regard to "treating." Resolved that this Branch do all possible to further the signing of the petition against treating sent out by the No-License League. A resolution of sympathy with Miss Woodhead, who has been seriously ill, was also passed.

### WELLINGTON CENTRAL.

At the monthly meeting on Friday, 18th February, the following resolutions were passed:—"That this meeting desires to express its sincere sympathy with the family of the late Mrs Kirk in the recent loss of their mother,

who for many years took an active part in the work of the W.C.T.U." "That the Minister of Defence be earnestly requested to follow the example of the Home authorities and make it a penal offence for any person to pay for or give liquor to a soldier in uniform." Surprise and regret were expressed by members that so much evidence of excessive drinking among soldiers on leave was still apparent. Remits for the forthcoming Convention at Wanganui were discussed, Mrs McDonald being elected delegate.

### KAIAPOI.

At a meeting of the above Union, held on 23rd February, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—"The members of the Kaiapoi District Women's Christian Temperance Union having the interests of our returned soldiers at heart, and realising that although the peril to our soldiers through drink was grave enough before they went away, it is now aggravated under the conditions in which they find themselves when they come back, we earnestly and urgently request the Minister of Defence to (1) immediately prohibit the practice of 'shouting' for soldiers by making it illegal, (2) to make it a penal offence for anyone to furnish liquor to soldiers in uniform, (3) to place all hotels near soldiers' convalescent camps out of bounds.

### WANGANUI EAST.

Usual monthly meeting held February 25th, the President occupying the chair. Business in connection with forthcoming Convention was discussed. Mrs James was appointed delegate to represent Union at Convention. Arrangements in connection with essay for school children were left in the hands of Mrs Andrew. A discussion took place re "treating" soldiers, and in accordance with the wishes of our N.Z. Cor. Sec., Miss Henderson, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—"That this Wanganui East Branch of the W.C.T.U. views with deep concern the deplorable practice of 'shouting' for our wounded soldiers, as their recovery is greatly retarded; at the same time the foundation of much after-evil is laid, therefore we respectfully ask the Hon. J. Allen, Minister for Defence, to introduce legislation that will make the practice of 'shouting' or 'treating' soldiers illegal." The resolution was at once forwarded to the Hon. J. Allen. We are sorry to report our Secretary and Treasurer (Mrs Andrew) is laid aside through illness.

### CHRISTCHURCH.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Christchurch W.C.T.U. was held on Wednesday, February 23rd, Mrs J. McCombs in the chair. It was unanimously resolved: "That in view of the fact that the physical and

moral efficiency of the soldiers are seriously impaired by the use of alcohol, the Minister of Defence should be urged to restrict the opportunities afforded to soldiers of obtaining intoxicating liquor, and that he should be especially urged to prohibit the practice of shouting." In this connection, it was decided that a deputation from the Union should wait upon the Hon. Jas. Allen, Minister of Defence. Mrs. D. McKee and Miss Roberts were appointed delegates to the National Convention, and it was resolved that the delegates should be instructed to support the proposal that the N.Z. Women's Christian Temperance Unions should present a motor field kitchen or some similar gift to the Defence authorities for the use of our soldiers at the Front. Mrs. Pedler reported that arrangements had been made to give a tea and concert to the inmates of the Jubilee Home. Members were asked to bring "baskets," as usual. Miss Henderson was appointed General Superintendent for Red Cross work.

#### TINWALD.

Feb. 9. The monthly meeting of the Tinwald Branch was held in the Presbyterian Church. The President (Mrs. Stevenson) presided over a good attendance. The members were strongly in favour of Mrs. Scanlon's motion re proxies having the same privileges as delegates at Convention. A letter from Miss Henderson was read, and after discussion, the following resolution was carried:—"That this meeting of W.C.T.U. heartily supports any measure brought forward to prevent 'shouting' for soldiers." Miss Hickman was elected Evangelistic Superintendent, with Mrs. Smith to assist. Two new members were initiated. It was decided to order a dozen copies of "White Ribbon" with Convention report in, and distribute among the members, with a view to getting more subscribers. The meeting closed with prayer.

#### WELLINGTON CENTRAL.

On Thursday, 2nd March, Mrs. Huffam, of Oriental Bay, gave an "At Home" on behalf of the Wellington Central W.C.T.U. After a song by Miss Chapman, Mrs. Adjutant Green, wife of the Salvation Army chaplain in Egypt, gave an interesting address, touching on various phases of social questions. Mrs. Green spoke of effect of home training and the need of more prayer in the family. The good effect of this training had been seen among our soldiers when called upon to face the last foe—death. In their extremity men had repeated texts of Scripture and verses of hymns learnt years before. In respect to the drink question, Mrs. Green urged women to adopt the motto, "New Zealand, Christian and sober." The war had shown that the motto should be applied to the world, which ought to be Christian and sober. It

was wrong to blame God for the awful war that was deluging Europe in blood. The nations had been plunged into war, not by God, but by the ambition of the War-Lord. When Mrs. Green had been thanked for her address, afternoon tea was handed round.

#### TIMARU.

Feb. 29. Mrs. Rule (President) presided, attendance fair. Annual Cradle Roll picnic held at Caroline Bay on the 24th, about 40 mothers and their little ones present. The members provided refreshments and fruit. Plunket nurse gave a most interesting talk to the mothers. Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Trott, and Mrs. Rule also spoke a few words of advice. Mrs. Wallace sent in her report re visits to the hospital. Mrs. Jennings and Mrs. Brooker appointed hospital visitors for March. Mrs. Rule read some extracts on the work of Miss Willard. Mrs. Brooker read a paper on the twofold nature of Christ. Mr and Mrs. Good sent in a good report on the work of the Rest for the month. A resolution was passed and sent to Mr. Allen, Minister of Defence, urging him to bring in a measure immediately prohibiting the practice of "shouting" for soldiers.

#### WANGANUI.

There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting. Business was all in connection with coming Convention. Conveners of different committees have their work well in hand. Sixty names of visiting delegates are in to date, but others coming in each day. The intention is to have the public welcome on Wednesday, 15th, at 7.30 p.m., and a picnic up the river on the Saturday. One visitor from Napier was welcomed. Three new members joined.

#### OXFORD.

Feb. 29. President in the chair. Motions of sympathy were passed with Mrs. Osborne in the death of her mother, and with Mrs. Lyons in the death of her son at Gallipoli. Decided to send a delegate to Convention. A letter was received from the A. and P. Association asking the Union to cater for the Show on April 6th. It was agreed to do so on the usual terms. Decided to accept Mrs. Caverhill's offer of a juvenile concert party in aid of the proposed field kitchen for New Zealand soldiers at the Front. The Secretary to telegraph to the Minister of Defence drawing his attention to the resolution lately forwarded to him condemning the "shouting" of alcoholic drinks to soldiers. The President, on behalf of the Union, welcomed Mrs. Long, the newly-appointed Vice-President. It being Willard Day, Mrs. Gainsford read an interesting account of the life of Frances Willard. A meeting of willing workers to be held at Mrs. T. Gainsford's, March 7th, to make ar-

rangements for the Show. Miss Caverhill (Treasurer) handed in £30 to the local Red Cross, the profits from the afternoon tea on Boxing Day.

#### MATAURA.

Attendance good at February meeting. Mrs. Reid opened the meeting. Plunket Nurse Every delivered an address on the care of the little ones, which was much appreciated. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded her. A telegram was sent to the Minister for Defence calling upon him to use his power to prohibit "shouting" for intoxicants for men wearing the King's uniform. One new member joined at close of meeting.

#### BLUFF.

Meeting on Friday afternoon, when there was a good attendance of members. Several matters of business were discussed, including petitioning Parliament for the early closing of liquor bars.

#### NGAERE.

Meeting held at Mrs. McMillom's residence. There was a large attendance of members and several visitors from other Unions were present. Mrs. Morison, Flower Mission Superintendent, reported that during a recent visit to Wellington she had interviewed Mrs. Luke, Mayoress, with the idea of gaining a better idea of Red Cross work. The members of our Union have for many months past been constantly at work for the cause. Convention business was discussed, and instructions given to our delegate. It is regrettable that so few of our members are able to attend Convention.

#### MATAKANA.

Jan. 6. Cradle Roll and Band of Hope picnic held in a small bay on the Matakana River. The picnickers were taken over in launches, and the children played upon the sands and paddled in the salt water. Races were held till each one had won a prize. After tea, the launches took their passengers home, after spending a pleasant afternoon.

Jan. 27. We welcomed Mrs. E. Morrison, a member of the Warkworth W.C.T.U., who kindly came to read her paper on "Woman; Her Power," which was followed by a short address, and both were thoroughly appreciated by all present. Our President returned thanks to our visitor, and afternoon tea was handed round.

#### GISBORNE.

First meeting of the year held February 29th, 18 present. Vice-Presidents appointed, also several heads of departments. Mrs. Goffe appointed delegate to Convention. Decided to hold a "Treasurer's Day" in conjunc-

tion with our May meeting, so that members will find it easier to remember their subscriptions. Annual balance-sheet read and adopted, showing a balance of over £5, with a membership of 66. In regard to Miss Henderson's letter, asking Unions to pass resolutions at February meeting, finding we were too late to help in that way, we arranged to send the following wire to Mr Allen at once:—"Gisborne and Tokomaru W.C.T.U. congratulate you on opinions expressed re 'shouting,' and hope you will be able to entirely end the practice."

#### STRATFORD.

Feb. 10. Attendance fair. Sent following letter to Hon. J. Allen, Minister for Defence:—"We the members of the W.C.T.U., Stratford, most earnestly appeal to you to prohibit the practice of 'shouting' for our soldiers by the public. This mistaken kindness is the cause of much trouble and disgrace to those whom we should hold in honour for the sacrifices they are making. We also respectfully urge that the sale of intoxicating drink to men wearing the King's uniform be prohibited, and the order strictly enforced." Also inserted in local paper. Letter of thanks from War Refugees Committee for box of clothing sent by Stratford Union. Mrs Lee-Cowie's scheme re ambulance work heartily taken up. All N.Z. officers were nominated for re-election. Mrs Reeve was chosen as delegate at Convention in March. An additional 10s was voted to Organising Fund. Arrangements made for Garden Party to be held on February 24th to commemorate Frances Willard Day. Two new members joined. Decided to order one dozen "White Ribbon" Convention numbers for distribution.

On February 24th a Garden Party was held at the residence of Mrs Cameron, Regan Street, to commemorate Frances Willard Day. Owing to various counter-attractions, the attendance was not as large as was anticipated. The President read Mrs Lee-Cowie's letter re matter of raising funds for ambulance work, and Miss Maunder, of Hawera, gave a short address on this subject, suggesting that a regimental kitchen would be a very useful gift to the men in the trenches. One member enrolled. Good collection in aid of the World's Missionary Fund, 16s.

#### KAIKORAI.

Monthly meeting on Friday, 25th February, the President (Mrs Martin) presiding. A visit was paid by Mrs Don, the Dominion President, who spoke on W.C.T.U. work as at present, also business in connection with coming Convention to be held during March at Wanganui.

#### WARKWORTH.

Feb. 24. Ten members present. Mrs Hamilton presided, and began by reading 1 Corinthians, chap. 13, fol-

lowing it with a short reading from the beginning of James Drummond's book, "The Greatest Thing in the World." The meeting decided to forward a letter of sympathy to Mrs McKinney, who, three weeks previous, met with an unpleasant accident while waiting to meet her soldier son returning from the Front. The following is a copy of a telegram sent that day to the Minister for Defence:—"The Warkworth Branch of the W.C.T.U. passed a strong resolution that the Minister for Defence be urged to pass a stringent measure absolutely preventing the practice of 'shouting' for soldiers." It was also decided to try to find suitable people to take up Flower Mission and Cradle Roll work. The meeting closed with the Benediction.

#### WAIPUKURAU.

Dec. Annual meeting. Election of officers. Reports from the different officers and a review of our year's work. A resolution dealing with "shouting" for soldiers was forwarded to the Minister for Defence. In our township, at the present time, temperance workers are much concerned over the moving of the local hotel from its present rather secluded position into the very centre of the town, and directly opposite what all consider a very dangerous crossing. A strong appeal was made against this, and was sent to the local paper. The result was a newspaper correspondence, in which we came in for a little abuse; we were even called "names." Mrs White was appointed delegate to Convention. Mrs Nicholson is also going as a visitor to gain knowledge for us from the "shining lights" of our Union.

#### GREYMOUTH.

February. Willard Day. A specially good attendance. Our President (Mrs Gaskin) gave a good opening address, and introduced our speakers. The Ven. Archdeacon York (who with Mrs York has just returned from England) gave us good information on women's work at present in the Home Land. Ensign Calcott gave a temperance address. Miss Parkinson gave us the training of children. Miss G. White and Miss C. Hopkins sang solos. Afternoon tea was served. We have the promise of several new members as the result of our afternoon.

#### SOUTH INVERCARGILL.

Feb. 8. Annual meeting held in Amethyst Hall, attendance good. The President (Mrs Paisley) spoke very encouragingly to the members of the good work done during the year, also thanked all those who had helped at the rest tent and tea rooms on Show Day. Judging by the financial success, the public must have appreciated the W.C.T.U.'s effort to provide a good cup of tea. The following officers were elected:—Pres., Mrs Paisley; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Mor-

ison, Myers and Stobo; Sec., Mrs Parkins; Treas., Miss Pyle; "W.R.," Mrs Sullivan; Press, Mrs James Smart. Decided to celebrate Frances Willard Day by a picnic. Mrs Hunter and Mrs McAlister spoke on the effort to help our boys at the Front by providing a motor ambulance, Mrs Cowie starting the list by giving a house in Mary street valued at £500. Mr Todd, auctioneer, offered to auction same free of charge.

#### STRATFORD.

March. The following suggestions were submitted for the coming Convention:—(1st) That all Branches in the Dominion send a deputation to the A. and P. Committee requesting the abolition of the drinking booth at the Shows, and that the Convention recommend a substitute for this hideous evil; (2nd) that very drastic means be employed by Government to do away with the shouting system; (3rd) that the laws made for women and children be more just.

#### PAHIATUA.

March 2. Frances Willard Day. Drawing-room meeting held, Mrs Neal (President) in the chair. Miss Powell gave an interesting address on the work of Frances Willard, and the progress of the W.C.T.U. in many lands, and made an earnest appeal for new members. Two members were initiated, and it was announced that two others had joined during Miss Powell's house to house visitation. The following resolution was carried, with one dissenter:—"That in view of the fact that the repeated appeals of the Minister for Defence have been utterly disregarded by a section of the public, who still persist in treating soldiers, to the injury of their health and the disgrace of their uniforms, this meeting, held under the auspices of the W.C.T.U., Pahiatua, urgently requests the Minister for Defence to immediately take steps to render the practice of 'shouting' for soldiers a penal offence." Collection for World's W.C.T.U. Missionary Fund, 26s.

#### WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

"Willard Day" was celebrated on February 17 in the Constable Street Rooms, when the Rev. Knowles Smith was in the chair. The address was given by Rev. Mr Poole (Fiji), and was much appreciated. The following resolution was unanimously passed at this meeting:—"That the Minister for Defence be asked that legislation be introduced immediately forbidding, under heavy penalties, the practice of 'shouting' for soldiers. Many parts of the Empire have passed 'anti-shouting' legislation, and have found, as a consequence, that the evil of drunkenness is much lessened."

The monthly meeting was held on Thursday, March 2nd, when Mrs Houlder (President) was in the chair. There was a good attendance of members and friends. Mrs Boxall pro-

posed: "That this meeting urges that all hotels in Wellington district be closed at 6 p.m. during war time, and enters a strong protest against the wet canteen." Our delegates were asked to take particular notice of the L.T.L. at Convention, and if possible to get one started here on their return. It was reported that all arrangements for the "Red Cross Tea" were arranged satisfactorily.

#### HAMILTON.

Dec. 2. Annual meeting. The President (Mrs J. M. Jones) in the chair. There was a good attendance. Report of the year's work was read and adopted. Ten business, two public, and seven home, evangelistic, and missionary meetings had been held. The Hospital Committee had visited the patients in the Public Hospital every week, and distributed flowers, magazines, etc. Most of the members had assisted in sewing for our wounded soldiers and Belgians. In her address, the President urged those present to a more united effort against the liquor traffic and all forms of betting and gambling. The Treasurer's report showed credit balance—adopted. A motion of appreciation of Archdeacon Cowie's letter, in recent issue of local paper, re censorship of picture films, was adopted, the members feeling that a good many of the moving pictures contributed a grave menace to the moral well-being of the rising generation, and strongly urged a strict Government censorship of pictures. Following officers elected:—Pres., Mrs J. M. Jones (re-elected); Sec., Mrs Auld; Treas., Mrs Jenkins. Mrs Snow was re-elected Superintendent of Home, Evangelistic, and Missionary Meetings. Hospital Committee re-elected. Mrs Henderson re-elected "White Ribbon" Agent. Afternoon tea was served before the meeting closed.

March 2. First meeting of year. Mrs Jones presided over good attendance. In a brief address, the President made some suggestions as to work the members could take up this year. She emphasised the importance of and great need for more prayer. Mrs Cumming gave a most earnest Gospel address, and sang a sacred song, which were much appreciated by the ladies present. Afternoon tea was served, and two new members were initiated.

#### PETONE.

The following officers were elected for the year at Petone:—Pres., Mrs Rowse; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Corner, McPherson, and Miss Kirk; Sec., Mrs Burd; assist-Sec., Mrs A. Cole; Treas., Mrs Donoghue; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Wilson; Cradle Roll, Mrs Hope; Sick Visitors, Mesdames McPherson and Murgatroyd.

#### A TEMPERANCE PARABLE.

A certain man was going down from the cradle toward the grave; and he fell among the liquor dealers, who took away his money, his work, his reputation, and his power to earn a decent living, and turned him adrift worse than dead. By chance a certain moderate drinker came that way, and when he saw him he said: "A man who cannot control his appetite is better dead." And he passed by on the other side.

In like manner also a licensed victualler, when he came to the place and saw him, said: "The workhouse for him. Let him break stones for the city until he becomes sober." And he passed by on the other side.

But a certain Christian Temperance fanatic, as he journeyed, came where he was; and when he saw him he was moved with compassion, and took him home, and ministered to him and to his family, and got him to sign the pledge, and found him work. Which of these three, thinkest thou, was the best of humanity?

#### THE BOTTLE THAT CHRISTENS A SHIP.

Whenever a ship has been christened with a bottle of wine, those of us who believe most strongly in prohibition have been apt to rejoice in the fact that another bottle of wine had gone into the water. "A good place for it," we have said. And some of us have said: "What difference does it make whether a ship is christened with water or with wine? It's a mere formality: a rite. Why fuss about a little thing?" But comes along the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and puts a new light on the matter. Consider, it urges, the root meaning of the word "christening": "One of the dictionary definitions of **to christen** is: 'to name, as a ship, by a ceremony likened to baptism.' Always baptism in the Christian ceremony has been with water. If in days gone by spirituous liquors were supposed to give long life and to bring good luck, the revelations of science have thoroughly exploded that theory. Water is a symbol of life; alcohol, a symbol of disease, destruction and death, the enemy of life and of efficiency; hence the christening of

any ship with champagne is an absurdity and an anachronism."

Many will stand corrected by this same view. We do, and we are glad to take off our hats to the clever mind in the Women's Christian Temperance Union that conceived this excellent argument.—"Ladies' Home Journal," January, 1916.

#### WOULDEST THOU?

Would'st thou be loved? From Love's all-potent chalice

Pour healing balm over hearts that mourn and bleed,  
And not a taint of envy, hatred, malice—

But love pure, priceless love—shall be thy meed.

Would'st thou be brave? Gird up thy loins, and duly

Do noble deeds that else were left undone,

And valour's "Cross" thy breast shall grace as truly

As 'twere in battle's dread arena won.

Would'st thou be happy? Ever by kindly action

Relieve thy weaker brother of his load,

So shall the bliss of Heavenly benefaction

Be thy sweet solace on Life's tortuous road.

Would'st thou be honoured and thy name engraven

Deep on immortal hearts, not crumbling stone?

Then lead thy comrades on to honour's haven,

And reign—a king—on an Elysian throne.

—Wm. Johns.

Parnell.

**Ashburton**, 2nd Tuesday, 2.30 p.m., in Baring Square Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs W. K. Watson, Box 37; Rec. Sec., Miss Trevurzon, 169 Peter Street; Asst. Sec., Miss Wise, Short St.; Treas., Mrs W. T. Lil, Willowby; "W.R." Supt., Miss Butterick, Wakanui.

**Auckland** District, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Central Mission Hall, Albert St.; Pres., Mrs Cook, Point St., Mt. Eden; Cor. Sec., Miss N. Dewar, Pompaier Terr., Ponsonby; Rec. Sec., Miss Evans, G.F.S., Wellesley St.; Treas., Mrs McLean, Principles St., Grey Lynn; Org. Treas., Miss Dewar, 4 Pompaier Terr., Ponsonby; "W.R." Agent Miss Pudney, 16, Wallace St. Ponsonby.

**Blenheim** District, 1st Tuesday, 3 p.m.; Pres. Mrs. A. Jackson; Sec., Mrs. D. P. Sinclair, Box 27; Treas., Mrs. Hay, Stephenson St.; Mothers' Meeting and Cradle Roll, Mesdames Brewer and Hancock; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. W. Parker, Grove Rd.

**Cambridge**, first Tuesday in month, in Victoria Hall, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. W. Hogan; Vice-Pres., Mesdames P. Smith and Gow; Sec., Mrs. A. T. Watson; Treas., Mrs. C. H. Ryecroft; Cradle Roll, Mrs. M. Robert.

**Christchurch** District, Rooms at Manchester and Worcester Streets. Second and fourth Wednesday; Pres., Mrs. I. McCombs, 26, Tai Street, Fendalton; Cor. Sec., Mrs. R. Day, Milford St., St. Albans; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Martin, 245, Madras Street; Treas., Mrs. Patterson, Latimer Square; "W.R." Supt., Mrs. Williams, 21, Philip St., Linwood.

**Dannevirke**, 2nd Wednesday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. W. F. Knight, Tahoraiti; Sec., Mrs. Wiseman, High St.; Treas., Miss Burdett, The Manse.

**Dunedin** District, 1st Tuesday, Congregational Church Hall, Moray Place, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. H. H. Driver, "The Chalet," Newington; Cor. Sec., Miss Nicol, 16, William St.; Rec. Sec., Miss Mazengarb, 362, George St.; Treas., Miss Winnie Reid, Bishopscourt, Roslyn; Supt. Sailor's Rest, Mrs. Pearson, Corner Union and Castle Streets; Supt. White Ribbon and Writing Pads, Mrs. Anderson, 32, Duke St.; Press Cor., Miss L. Neil, 5, Park St.

**Devonport**, Fourth Thursday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. G. H. Mann, Parsonage, Church St., Devonport, Auckland; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Veats, Hurstmere Rd., Takapuna; Sec., Mrs. A. Little, 31 Church St.; Treas., Miss Le Roy, Water-view Rd., Stanley Bay.

**Feilding**, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., St. Paul's Hall; Pres., Miss Moore, c/o Mr. W. H. Bain, Feilding; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Bridge, Manchester St.; Cor. Sec., Mrs. C. J. Thompson, Denbigh Street; Treas., Mrs. Williamson, The Hill; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Burnley; Railway Box, Mrs. Shearer.

**Gisborne** District, last Tuesday, 2.45 p.m., Presbyterian Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs. A. Graham, Kaiti; Cor. Sec., Mrs. F. J. Wilkes, 466 Gladstone Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs. F. S. Malcolm, Aberdeen Rd.; Treas., Mrs. Goffe, Ormond Rd.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. D. W. Coleman.

**Greymouth** District, last Tuesday at 3 p.m., in Sailor's Rest Hall; Pres., Mrs. Gaskin; Sec., Mrs. J. Hayes, Tainui St.; Treas., Mrs. Sweetman; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs. T. Brown.

**Greytown**, Last Wednesday at 3 p.m. in Presbyterian Sunday School. President, Mrs. Whineop; Secretary, Mrs. Banks; Treasurer, Mrs. W. A. Tate; W.R. Agent, Miss McWhinney.

**Hamilton** District, first Thursday, Wesley Class Rooms, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. J. M. Jones, Clandelands; Sec., Mrs. W. Auld; Treas., Mrs. Jenkins, Clandelands.

**Hastings**, 2nd Wednesday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Harrison, 202 Gray's Rd.; Hon. Sec., Mrs. Griffiths, Market St.; Treas., Mrs. Collinge, Riverslea; Evangelistic, Mrs. Stewart; Purity, Mrs. Martindale; Maori Work, Miss McKewen; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Gray.

**Invercargill** District, 1st Tuesday, 3 p.m. in Allen's Hall; Pres., Mrs. C. H. Macalister, Gladstone; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Baird, Mrs. J. McKenzie, Mrs. Lee-Cowie and Mrs. Garrett; Sec., Mrs. F. J. Lillcrap, Earn Street; Treas., Mrs. James Hunter, 110, Don St.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Hunter, 110, Don Street.

**Kaipoi W.C.T.U. Assembly Rooms**. Union meets last Wednesday in the month, 2.30 p.m. Pres., Mrs. Brighting; Sec., Miss Blackwell, "The Willows"; Treas., Mrs. T. G. Blackwell; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs. Ward.

**Kaikorai**, last Friday in month, Presbyterian Hall, Kaikorai; Pres., Mrs. Martin, Main Rd.; Sec., Mrs. Hamilton, Main Rd.; Treas., Mrs. Somerville, Shetland St.; Cradle Roll, Miss Gardner, William St., Roslyn; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Somerville, Shetland St.

**Lytelton**, 1st Wednesday, Presbyterian Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs. Whitby; Sec., Mrs. Bromley; Treas., Mrs. Clark; "W.R." Agent, Miss Elsie Clark, "Waratah," W. Lytelton.

**Mania**, 2nd Friday, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs. J. J. Patterson; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Prakinson and Hunt; Treas., Miss York; Sec., Miss Craig; Cradle Roll, Miss Ricketts; "W.R." Supt., Mrs. Hunt.

**Masterton**, 1st Tuesday, Knox Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Devonport; Sec., Mrs. M. Flanagan, 4 Cole Street; Treas., Mrs. Sutherland; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs. Russell.

**Matakana**, 3rd Thursday, Presbyterian Church, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Witten, Tawharanui; Vice-Pres., Mrs. A. Roke; Sec., Mrs. E. Roke; Treas., Mrs. Melville; Cradle Roll, Mrs. Eyton; "W.R." Agent, Miss Tindall.

**Mosgiel**, Meets in Presbyterian Hall, 2nd Tuesday at 2.45 p.m. Pres., Mrs. Pinfold; Sec., Mrs. Wilson; Treas., Mrs. Accersoll; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Morton.

**Napier** District, 1st Tuesday, Willard Institute, Carlyle St., 3 p.m. Pres. Mrs. G. W. Venables, Ashridge Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs. F. Freeman, Latham St.; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Ingram, Macdonald St.; Treas., Mrs. S. Clare, Morris St.; Asst. Treas., Mrs. Mens; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Dodds, Oldham and Freeman; Home Meetings, Mrs. Ball, Park Road; Supt. Cradle Roll and Flower Mission, Mrs. Walker, Nelson Cres.; Purity, Mrs. Oldham.

**Ngaruawahia**, 1st Tuesday, 2.30 p.m. Presbyterian Church; Pres., Mrs. T. E. French; Vice-Pres., Mrs. L. Bycroft and Mrs. Vincent; Sec., Mrs. W. A. Porter; Treas., Mrs. S. Whitburn; Supt. Cradle Roll and W. R., Mrs. Kendall.

**New Plymouth** District, last Wednesday, 3 p.m., Good Templar Lodgeroom; Pres., Mrs. Allen Douglas, Pendarves St.; Sec., Mrs. W. Bruce, 251 Molesworth St.; Treas., and W.R. Agent, Miss Taunt, Victoria Rd.

**Normanby**, Second Wednesday, 2 p.m., Social Hall; Pres., Mrs. Scott; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Butler and Mrs. Clement; Sec., Mrs. Saunders; Treas., Mrs. Lynn; Cradle Roll, Mrs. K. Hall; White Ribbon, Mrs. Dickson; Literature, Mrs. Hayward.

**Norsewood**, 3rd Wednesday, 2 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Oliver; Sec., Miss A. E. Olsen, "Willow Park"; Treas., Mrs. S. Frederickson; "W.R." Agent, Miss M. Olsen, "Willow Park."

**Nelson** District, Second Tuesday, Temperance Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Miss Atkinson, Fairfield; Sec., Mrs. Knapp, Alfred St.; Treas., Mrs. A. Brown, Weka St.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Whitford, Mount St.

**Opotiki**, 2nd Thursday, St. John's Hall, 3 p.m., Pres., Mrs. J. G. Murray; Sec., Mrs. J. R. Sinclair; Treas. and Supt. "W.R." Mrs. Holman, Otafa; Supt. L.T.L., Mrs. Goodall; Cradle Roll, Mrs. Pearson.

**Oxford**, last Tuesday, 2.30 p.m., Coronation Hall; Pres., Mrs. G. Ryde, Cooper's Creek; Sec., Mrs. Corryns, East Oxford; Treas., Miss Caverhill; "W.R." Supt., Mrs. D. Hawke; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs. Gainsford, senr.

**Palmerston N. District**, 1st Friday, St. Andrew's Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Crabb, Fitzherbert St.; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Hills, Cuba St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Hodder, 46 Ferguson St.; Treas., Mrs. Clausen, Cook St.; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs. Holbrook, 41 Waldegrave St.

**Petone**, 1st Tuesday, Church of Christ, Sydney St., 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Rowse, Udy St.; Vice-Pres., Miss Kirk, Mesdames Corner and McPherson; Sec., Mrs. Burd, 87 Cuba St.; Treas., Mrs. Donoghue; Cradle Roll, Mrs. Barrow; Flower Mission, Mrs. McPherson; Home Meetings, Mrs. Ashby; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs. Wilson; Literature Mrs. James.

**Ponsonby**, 2nd Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Queen's Hall, Paget St.; Pres., Dr. F. Keller; Vice-Pres., Mrs. C. I. Harris, Mrs. C. R. Vickers, and Miss Caley; Sec., Mrs. Plummer, Coronation Rd., Epsom; "W.R." Supt., Mrs. Plummer; Treas., Mrs. M. A. Bailey, Ponsonby.

**Pukekohe**, Methodist Church, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Frost; Sec., Mrs. Haslem; Cor. Sec., Miss Usher; Treas., Mrs. Comrie; "W.R." Supt., Miss Goldsworthy.

**Rangiora**, last Friday, ante-room of Institute Hall, 2.45 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Cobden Cox, High St.; Sec. and Treas., Mrs. Patchett, Southbrook.

**Sheffield**, 1st Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Road Board Office; Pres., Mrs. McIlraith, Annat; Sec., Mrs. Pettit, Kirwee; Treas., Mrs. W. Kennedy, Annat.

**Stratford**, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs. Reeve; Vice-Pres., Mrs. L. Lily; Sec., Mrs. Reeve, pro tem.; Treas., Mrs. Birdsall.

**Takapuna**, 1st Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Takapuna Methodist, and Milford Baptist, alternately. Pres., Mrs. Fulljames, East Coast Rd.; Sec., Mrs. Carter, Lake Town Rd.; Treas., Miss Rushbrook, Milford.

**Timaru** District, last Tuesday, 7.30 p.m., Arcade; Pres., Mrs. Rule, North St.; Sec., Miss M. Avison, Victoria St.; Treas., Mrs. Cave, Raymond St.; Evangelistic and Press, Mrs. Lamb; Cradle Roll, Mrs. Valentine; Maori Work, Mrs. Butcher, Waiiti Rd.; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs. Stead, Sailor's Rest.

**Tuakau**, 2nd Thursday, Methodist Church, 2.30 p.m. Pres., Mrs. Hunter; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Madill, Lee, Long and Graham; Sec., Mrs. C. Bycroft; Treas., Mrs. Goldsmith; Supt. Band of Hope, Miss Worthington; Supt. Cradle Roll, Miss Burns; White Ribbon Supt., Miss Dwen.

**Taneatua**, 2nd Thursday, in Presbyterian Church, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Yeoman; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Raven; Sec., Mrs. Johnson; Treas., Mrs. Mairs; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs. Schofield.

**Waimate**, 2nd Wednesday, in Knox Church Hall, at 3 o'clock; Sec., Mrs. Geo. Dash, Box 27, P.O.; Treas., Mrs. S. J. Hitchens, "Te Rangī," Mill Rd.; "W.R." Supt., Mrs. G. H. Graham, Rhodes St.

**Waipawa**, 4th Tuesday, 3 p.m.; Pres. Mrs. Jas. Bibby; Vice-Pres., Mesdames McLean, Bott, and Maslin; Sec., Mrs. H. McLean; Treas., Miss Johnson; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs. S. Bott.

**Wanganui East** meets alternately in Baptist and Presbyterian Churches, last Friday at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Andrews; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Hicks; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Duxfield, Okoia, Wanganui; Treas., Mrs. McLeod, Wanganui E.

**Wanganui District**, 1st Friday, 2.30 p.m. Trinity Church Parlour, Pres., Mrs. Blamires; Cor. Sec., Mrs. J. McKenzie, 46 Wilson St.; Rec. Sec., Miss McAnemy; Treas., Mrs. Siddells; "W.R." Supt., Mrs. W. Grant.

**Warkworth**, last Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Schoolroom, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs. Hamilton, The Grange; Sec., Mrs. Miller; Treas., Mrs. Cox; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. E. Morrison; Supt. Cradle Roll, Mrs. Miller.

**Winchmore**, 1st Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Hanson; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Prebble, Mrs. Blair and Mrs. McIlroy; Sec., Miss Shearer, Ashburton; Treas., Mrs. Moore; White Ribbon Agent Mrs. Glassey.

**Wellington District**, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., Rooms, Constable St.; Pres., Mrs. Houlder, 108 Wallace St.; Sec., Mrs. Spearman, 6 Dawson St., Berhampore; Treas., Mrs. Brackenridge, 45 Waripori St.; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs. Webb, Hall St.

Girl's Association Rooms, Constable St., Newtown. Evening Classes and Socials. All girls invited.

**Wellington Central**, 3rd Friday, 3 p.m., Alliance Rooms, Manners St.; Pres., Mrs. A. R. Atkinson, Wadestown; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Evans, Abel Smith St. Rec. Sec., Mrs. Port, Pirie St.; Treas., Mrs. Helyer, Oriental Bay; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs. Port, Austin St.

**Waipukurau**, 2nd Thursday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Hopkirk; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Harding and Mrs. Nicholson; Sec., Mrs. H. French, Main St.; Treas., Mrs. Robinson; Organist, Miss Moffat.

**Woodville**, meets 4th Tuesday, 3 p.m., in Ormond St. Hall; Pres., Mrs. Perkins, Ross St.; Vice-Pres., Mrs. T. Jackson; Sec., Mrs. Thompson, Fox Street; Treas., Mrs. Davie, Station St.; Cradle Roll, Mrs. Cole; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Thompson, Fox St.